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FCC Mail Room

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January 31, 2014

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary
445 12th Street SW
Washington D.C. 20554

**Re: Public Comment on Notice of Proposed Rulemaking by the
Federal Communications Commission Related to Telecommunications Regulations
and Wireless Facilities Siting Policies and Public Notice
WT Docket No. 13-238
WT Docket No. 11-59**

Dear Commissioners:

The City of Mountlake Terrace has reviewed the draft Federal Communications Commission (FCC) rule changes related to telecommunications regulations and local authority siting of wireless facilities within rights of way and siting in general. We have concerns about the intent, scope, and clarity of the proposed changes and submit the following public comments for future rules.

The intent of the rulemaking, to "remove barriers to infrastructure investment: in manner consistent with the public interest, convenience and necessity," should not mean removal of all local authority to oversee the safe installation and physical and visual impacts of such infrastructure.

1. Any rule changes or addition of new rules and requirements should not reduce a City's ability to review and approve the reasonable siting of telecommunication facilities within the city's jurisdiction in a timely manner.
2. Telecommunication providers should make a good faith effort to site needed facilities in commercial or industrial areas before considering residential neighborhoods.
3. Any new rules should recognize that local governments need to guide the placement of wireless facilities, especially within the city or county's right of way and can most efficiently do this through a basic permitting process. Cities and counties have a great responsibility to manage the right of way for the benefit of all parties that use it. It should not be assumed that wireless facilities must be able to locate wherever, whenever, and however they want within city and county rights of way.

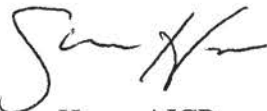
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4. Local governments must still be allowed to require aesthetic conditions for the location of large or tall facilities (especially other stand-alone facilities) that will be highly visible. Aesthetic conditions may include reasonable requirements for color or camouflage (such as a "tree appearance").
5. Local governments must be allowed to impose reasonable public safety requirements for wireless facilities, including non-interference with pedestrian accessibility under the ADA.

Overall, federal rules should not overly restrict local permitting processes. While we concur that there are "specific steps that could be taken to identify and reduce unnecessary obstacles to obtaining access to rights-of-way and siting wireless facilities", the interest of the FCC and broadband and wireless communication providers must be balanced with the local communities' needs as well.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. Feel free to contact me at 425.744.6281 or shope@ci.mt.wa.us if you have any questions.

In partnership,



Shane Hope, AICP
Community and Economic Development Director

cc: Project and CED Read Files

cc email: Senior Planner Duttlinger